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Downtown News

NC Wesleyan Students Set to Move into Carleton House

At the end of August, 52 NC Wesleyan students will move into the old Carleton House Hotel on North Church Street. This long-awaited development will put a critical mass of residents in the downtown core. Phase II in which another 48 students move in will occur in August of 2006. The redevelopment of the former restaurant section will be Phase III in the summer of 2007 and be used for meeting rooms, classrooms, recreational activities and an internet cafe.



An *exhibit of photographs* featuring the work of *Our State* photographers.



July - September 2005

ROCKY MOUNT CITY HALL

331 S. Franklin Street
Rocky Mount, NC 27804

Open

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Presented by Rocky Mount Arts Center,
Preservation Rocky Mount and CRM
Downtown Development Office.

Main Streets of Our State captures the essence of main streets throughout North Carolina.

For information call (252) 972-1164.
Or visit, www.ci.rocky-mount.nc.us/artcenter/

Our State
NORTH CAROLINA

Applications for Downtown Loan Pool to be Made Available

In the month of August, applications for the Downtown Loan Pool will be made available. The loan pool offers flexible financing for the acquisition and rehabilitation for Downtown buildings. The pool is open to individuals, partnerships, corporations, not-for-profits and government entities. It is initially being funded by \$2.4M from a consortium of six local banks. The city has allocated 20% as a loan loss reserve in case of default. The loan is structured as interest only at prime during construction (maximum of 24 months) until Certificate of Occupancy and then another 12 months interest only for start/lease up. After this the loan goes to prime +2% for one additional year. Borrowers may pre-pay the loan at any time without penalty. Applications will be available on-line at the city's website (<http://www.ci.rocky-mount.nc.us/downtown/forms.html>) or can be picked up in the Downtown Office at City Hall.

Night Out Against Crime Set for August 2nd

Join the Rocky Mount Police Department as they celebrate a Night Out Against Crime on Tuesday, August 2nd from 7-10PM in the Parking Lot of Station Square in Downtown Rocky Mount. The event will feature music, activities/games/demonstrations as well as hot dogs and drinks. **Everything's free!** For more information call 972-1453.



Two Main Street Buildings Sustain Fire Damage

119 & 121 SE Main Street, that share a roof, suffered from a fire in the early morning hours of Sunday, June 26th. The suspicious fire is still under investigation. Kudos to the Rocky Mount Police Department that spotted the fire and the Rocky Mount Fire Department that put it out. If you have any information on this fire please contact Detective Fortenbery of the Police Department at 972-1467.

City Council Deliberates on Closing a Downtown Railroad Crossing

The Rocky Mount City Council is deciding if either the Nash/Marigold or Hill/Western Railroad crossing will be closed. If either is closed, the other crossing will be converted to accommodate for two-way traffic. The downtown circulation study which has been in the works for over a year culminated with a City Council Public Hearing on Monday, July 25th. None of the speakers, mostly of whom were downtown merchants and property owners, supported closing either crossing. The City Council is considering the closing so that the City may receive a slew of incentives from CSX and the NC DOT. To get the perks, which include real estate, safety improvements and cash, a total of nine crossing closings would need to occur city-wide. The downtown closing would be the ninth and final.



The hanging flower baskets on both sides of Main Street from Thomas Street to the Train Station continue to grow, prosper and receive positive attention. A special thank you to John-Michael Jacobs, our summer intern, for keeping the plants watered and fed. As requested, a winter basket program, featuring pansies, is being explored.

Mark Your Calendar!

The 24th Annual **Down East Festival** will be held on **Saturday, October 8th, 2005** in Downtown Rocky Mount. For details or to get involved contact Debbie Julio at 972-1159.

Also be on the lookout for a new merchant-sponsored promotional event in the downtown in the month of September.

Investment Opportunities

116 & 120 Tarboro Street- 2 small, 1-story commercial buildings for sale by owner. Diagonally across from the People's Bank Building. Contact Bill Delillo at (252) 984-0776.

147, 149 & 151 SE Main Street- For sale. Three turn-of-the-century buildings. Contact Mary Grant at (252) 442-5178

The properties listed above are only a partial listing of investment opportunities in the central city area. This information is published solely to promote the public interest in revitalization of the central city as part of the overall economic improvement of the City of Rocky Mount. Neither the Downtown Development Office nor the City of Rocky Mount has any intent to act in any capacity as an agent for the sale or lease of these properties. For further information call 972-1267.

From the Manager's Desk



In the Spotlight

The third episode of City Manager Steve Raper's show will feature Downtown Development Manager Ian Kipp. The discussion, focusing on Rocky Mount's downtown revitalization, will begin airing in early August.

For more information tune into "From the Manager's Desk" daily on C.I.T.Y. TV19 at 1AM, 10AM, 3PM, 6PM and 9PM.